



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,242	09/27/2002	Andrew John Silveri	201-1029	2117

28866 7590 02/18/2004

MACMILLAN, SOBANSKI & TODD, LLC
ONE MARITIME PLAZA - FOURTH FLOOR
720 WATER STREET
TOLEDO, OH 43604

EXAMINER

HO, HA DINH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3681

DATE MAILED: 02/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/065,242

Applicant(s)

SILVERI ET AL.

Examiner

Ha D. Ho

Art Unit

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the first Office Action on the merits of Application No. 10/065,242 filed on 09/27/02.
2. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed on 12/23/03. Claims 15-20 have been canceled accordingly. Claims 1-14 are currently pending.

Election/Restrictions

3. Applicant's election of the invention of group I, claims 1-14, in Paper No. 3 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).
4. No claim is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 3.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brown et al. (US 6,176,808).

Regarding claims 1 and 10, Brown et al teach a transmission for a hybrid electric vehicle (see Fig. 2) comprising a traction motor (i.e., electric motor) drivingly connected to an engine; an input shaft (22) with a main transmission fluid pump drivingly connected thereto; an electrically controlled hydraulic shift system (see Fig. 8); a low-reverse clutch (168) and a forward clutch (176) connected to the hydraulic shift system; an electrically driven fluid pump (230); and a shut down shuttle valve (232) operatively engaging the electrically driven fluid pump (230), the low-reverse clutch (168) and the forward clutch (176), and switchable to selectively engage and disengage the electronically driven pump (230) from the hydraulic shift system.

Regarding claims 2-4, 6, 11 and 12, Brown et al show a forward-reverse solenoid (164) and a forward-reverse shuttle (208). The shut down shuttle (232) is shifted to the left when the fluid pressure produced by the electronically driven fluid pump (230) exceeds the fluid pressure produced by the main transmission fluid pump, and shut down shuttle (232) is shifted to the right when the fluid pressure produced by the electronically driven fluid pump (230) is less than the fluid pressure produced by the main transmission fluid pump (col. 12, lines 3-30).

Regarding claims 5, 7, 8 and 13, a pressure transducer (242) operatively engages the fluid output of the electronically driven fluid pump (230), and the forward clutch (176) operatively engages a second pressure transducer (i.e., the upper transducer).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 9 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 3681

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not disclose or render obvious a motivation to provide for a transmission as defined by the limitations of claims 9 and 14; including a solid relay connected to and drivable by a controller in communication with the pressure transducer.

Cited Prior Art

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Harada et al.'072, Tabata'389, Aoki et al.'947, Yamamoto'351, Nakamori et al '326, and Eguchi et al'357 which each shows a hydraulic shift control for a vehicle transmission.

Communication

10. Submission of your response by facsimile transmission is encouraged. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9326 for regular communications and (703) 872-9327 for After Final communications. Recognizing the fact that reducing cycle time in the processing and examination of patent applications will effectively increase a patent's term, it is to your benefit to submit responses by facsimile transmission whenever permissible. Such submission will place the response directly in our examining group's hands and will eliminate Post Office processing and delivery time as well as the PTO's mail room processing and delivery time. For a complete list of correspondence not permitted by facsimile transmission, see M.P.E.P. 502.01. In general, most responses and/or amendments not requiring a fee, as well as those requiring a fee but charging such fee to a deposit account, can be submitted by facsimile transmission. Responses requiring a fee which applicant is paying by check should not be submitting by facsimile transmission separately from the check. Responses submitted by facsimile transmission should include a Certificate of Transmission (M.P.E.P. 512). The following is an example of the format the certification might take:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to
the Patent and Trademark Office on _____

(Date)

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:

Art Unit: 3681

(Signature)

If your response is submitted by facsimile transmission, you are hereby reminded that the original should be retained as evidence of authenticity (37 CFR 1.4 and M.P.E.P. 502.02). Please do not separately mail the original or another copy unless required by the Patent and Trademark Office. Submission of the original response or a follow-up copy of the response after your response has been transmitted by facsimile will only cause further unnecessary delays in the processing of your application; duplicate responses where fees are charged to a deposit account may result in those fees being charged twice.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Ho whose telephone number is (703) 305-0738. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Charles Marmor, can be reached at (703) 308-0830. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

Ha Ho 2/11/04

Ha Ho
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3681